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(*c*) whether the Lower Bhavani Project canals will be kept open till March every year?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : (*a*) & (*b*) No orders were issued for closing the project canals after the 15th January 1956. Under the tentative Rules of Regulation for Bhavanisagar, the canals should be closed on the 15th March. This year however, in view of the satisfactory storage position in the reservoir, and for enabling the raising of a first millet crop in areas not brought under cultivation till then and for the cultivation of a second millet crop in areas already cultivated with a first millet crop, orders were issued, in January last, as a special case, to keep open the project canals till the 31st March 1956.

(*c*) It cannot be said whether they can be kept open every year.

SRI K. T. RAJU : கீழ் பவானி கால்வாயில் விடப்படுகிற தண்ணீர், கால்வாயின் கடை முனையின் வடகோடி வரையில் போய்ச் சேராமல் அங்கு தண்ணீர் நெருக்கடி ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆகவே, கால்வாயின் கடை முனையில் உள்ள நிலங்களுக்கு அதிகமாக தண்ணீர் போய்ச் சேருவதற்கு பிரத்யேகமான நடவடிக்கைகளை எடுக்க அமைச்சரவர்கள் முன்வருவார்களா?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : கனம் அங்கத்தினர் இந்த விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி என்னிடம் சொன்னார். உடனடியாக நான் இன்ஜினியருக்குத் தகவல் கொடுத்து 17-ந் தேதிக்குள் ஒரு ரிபோர்ட்டு வரவேண்டுமென்று உத்தரவு பிறப்பித்திருக்கிறேன்.

Evacuee property in Madras City

* 3430 *Q*.—SRI A. M. RATHNASWAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state, the extent of landed property in the Madras City which has been taken over by the Collector of Madras as evacuee property?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : 23 cawnies, 19 grounds and 77 square feet.

SRI A. M. RATHNASWAMY : Is it a fact that there are a number of slums coming under the evacuee property? May I also know whether it is a fact that the Harijans living in these affected slums have approached the Government for the purchase of these sites and if so with what result?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Yes, Sir. Some of the slums are situated in evacuee properties and a proposal to acquire them under the Slum Acquisition Act is under consideration.

SRI A. M. RATHNASWAMY : Have the Government any idea of the rough estimate of the landed property and also buildings? May I know whether the Khaleeli Buildings come under evacuee property?

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The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : I do not have the information here. But, my impression is that the Khaleeli Buildings come under the definition of ' evacuee property '. The assessed value of all the properties is about Rs. 43,70,613.

Sri K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE : May I know whether there is any objection to giving these lands to the old occupants on some lease arrangements?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : I cannot answer that question offhand. It is being treated as evacuee property and there are definite rules and regulations governing the disposal of these evacuee properties.

Sri S. PANCHAKSHARAM : Sir, these properties which are taken over as evacuee properties by the Collector are under the disposal of the Government of India and they have to be sold in public auction. If that is so, how can this Government acquire them under the Slum Acquisition Act?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : Whatever property is situated here, if there is any law under which it could be acquired —whether it belonged to the Government of India or anybody— it could be acquired under the provisions of that law. The only thing is that we have to pay compensation to those who are entitled to the property.

Sri M. PALANIYANDI : சென்னை நகரத்திலுள்ள குடி பெயர்ந்தோரின் மொத்த மதிப்பீடு சுமார் 40 லட்சம் இருக்குமென்று நினைக்கிறேன். சென்னையிலுள்ள எவாக்வி சொத்துக்களையெல்லாம் ஏலம் போட்டாய் விட்டதா ? அல்லது அந்தச் சொத்துக்களெல்லாம் அரசாங்கத்தின் கையில் இருக்கின்றனவா ?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : இதுவரை ரூ. 32,71,000 பெறுமானமுள்ள சொத்துக்கள் ஏலம் போய்விட்டன. பாக்கியிருக்கும் சொத்துக்கள் ஏலம் போடவேண்டியிருக்கின்றன.

Sri V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIAR : Some of the properties were sold in auction and the purchasers have been put in possession of the property. But still, the conveyance and sale deeds have not yet been executed. May I know the reasons as to why there is delay?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : I would like to have notice.

Sri V. BALAKRISHNAN : Has there been a peaceful exchange of properties among the evacuees?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM : No, Sir. All the properties are being dealt with under the Evacuee Properties Act and they are being sold.

Sri A. M. RATHNASWAMY : Are the Government in a position to give us an assurance that the slum-dwellers living in the affected slums which come under the evacuee properties will not be disturbed under any circumstances?

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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I have already stated that the matter is under examination by Government.

SRI A. RATNAM : May I know the names of the slums that come under evacuee properties?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I am sorry I do not have the information here.

Leprosy Relief Centres

* 3431 *Q*.—SRI M. PALANIYANDI (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar) : Will the Hon the Minister for Health be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the Government have any proposal to start Leprosy Relief Centres in the State in 1956;

(*b*) if so, how many for the whole State and how many for Malabar?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) The Government have already sanctioned the opening of a Leprosy Subsidiary Centre at Ethapur, Salem district, in January 1956. A proposal for opening three more Subsidiary Centres during 1956 is under consideration. The exact location of the centres will be decided shortly. Another proposal to open two Leprosy Relief Centres in Malabar district is also under the consideration of the Government.

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : In addition to these centres, will the Government be pleased to direct the Headquarters and Divisional Hospitals to introduce some ameliorative measures by way of weekly injections to leper patients and attract them to such hospitals by the grant of weekly doles at the rate of 4 annas per head?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : Leprosy treatment is being given at all Government Hospitals. Tablets are given for oral administration and in necessary cases hydno carpus oil injections are also given.

SRI M. JAGANNATHAN : May I know which district suffers most from the incidence of leprosy and what are the measures taken by our Government to combat the disease in that particular district?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : The incidence is very heavy in the South Arcot district, Sir.

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY : May I know the number of leprosy clinics which are run by private institutions or individuals? May I also know what kind of aid is given by the Government to them?